



## PART 2 | EMERGING CAPABILITIES

## USMC FORCE CONTRIBUTION TO THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

The Marine Corps continues to support and ensure its interoperability with Special Operations Forces through a variety of means. In addition to focused activities to improve interoperability between the Theater Special Operations Commands and the Corps' forward-deployed ESGs/MEU(SOC)s, one of the major initiatives – pursued in coordination with the Naval Special Warfare Command – is the Marine Corps' first sizeable contribution of forces to the US Special Operations Command (USSOCOM).

In coordination with USSOCOM and their "Executive Agent" (the Naval Special Warfare Command) for the force contribution issue, the Marine Corps created an integrated 90-100 man detachment, designated MC SOCOM Detachment One, as an initial "proof of concept" to serve as the foundation for future contributions. The detachment is organized, trained and equipped to conduct special reconnaissance, direct action, coalition support, limited foreign internal defense and other missions as directed in support of Joint and Fleet Commanders.

Formally established in June 2003 at Camp Pendleton, California, MC SOCOM

Detachment One includes a Headquarters Section capable of performing battle staff functions supporting the Marine Detachment and the NSW Squadron while facilitating interface with higher headquarters. The remainder of the detachment consists of a reconnaissance element, an intelligence element, and a fire-support element that provide task-organized teams capable of conducting assigned missions.

The Commander, United States Pacific Command (CDRUSPACOM) exercises command over MC SOCOM Detachment One through the Commander, US Marine Corps Forces, Pacific (COM-MARFORPAC). The detachment will transfer to the operational control of USSOCOM in order to facilitate joint pre-deployment training, deployment/redeployment and employment operations, and deploy as part of a Naval Special Warfare Squadron in support of designated regional Combatant Commanders.

By leveraging the lessons learned from this history-making effort, the MC SOCOM Detachment One will serve as the foundation for future Marine Corps' force contributions to the United States Special Operations Command.

